

REMARKS

Claims 10-16 are pending in the application. Applicants have canceled claims 1-6 and added new claims 10-16. No new matter had been added.

In the Office Action mailed April 7, 2003, the Examiner has indicated that the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on May 13, 2002 stated that a translation of JP09076516 was included along with English abstracts of JP08142339 and JP10296982. In response, Applicants have included English abstracts of JP08142339 and JP10296982. Additionally, Applicants have submitted a corrected Information Disclosure Statement indicating that no English language translation is available for JP09076516, since none was ever received. However, Applicants are submitting U.S. Patent No. 5,983,486 which corresponds to JP09076516 in addition to an English abstract which also corresponds to JP09076516.

Claims 1-6 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kobayahsi (U.S. Patent No. 5,916,452). In response, Applicants have canceled claims 1-6, without prejudice, and added new claims 10-16, which Applicants believe are not anticipated by Kobayahsi.

Applicants respectfully submit that Kobayahsi does not teach a setting resin on the substrate, the thickness of the setting resin being determined such that a tip portion of the projecting object, which corresponds to the nozzle, projects from the setting resin, as required by the present invention. Kobayahsi discloses a process for efficiently producing a high quality ink jet head for discharging ink as a printing droplet by way of an ink jet system, to perform printing for a printing medium. (See Kobayahsi, col. 1, lines 5-10) The ink jet head includes a hardening material 6 that is introduced into a space 6', which forms circumferential walls of liquid pathways and a liquid chamber. (See Kobayahsi, col. 11 lines 40-45 and col. 12, lines 23-25) The hardening material 6 introduced into space between a first and second substrate is hardened, and thereafter, a first solid layer 4 and a second solid layer 5 are removed by dissolving them

with a solvent, whereby liquid pathways each containing an energy generating element 2 and having a discharging outlet and a liquid chamber are established to obtain an ink jet head of the constitution, as shown in FIG. 1. (See Kobayahsi, col. 12, lines 39-46) While Kobayahsi discloses forming a first solid layer 4 and a second solid layer 5, as illustrated in FIG. 4, Kobayahsi does not disclose that either the first solid layer 4 or the second solid layer 5 projects from the hardening material 6. (See Kobayahsi, FIGS. 4-6)

In contrast, Claim 1 of the present application requires that a tip portion of the projecting object, which corresponds to the nozzle, *projects from* a setting resin. Since Kobayashi does not teach or suggest any object *projecting from* a setting resin, it cannot be said that Kobayahsi anticipates the present invention.

For the aforementioned reasons, it is respectfully submitted that new claims 10-16 are allowable over the prior art, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested. Any questions should be directed to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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